

2 December 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Naval Intelligence

SUBJECT: Commendation for
Captain Howard H. Skidmore

Captain Skidmore has recently completed serving the Navy as its representative on a key Committee of the United States Intelligence Board. This Committee has had the responsibility for advising the Board and taking action on intelligence problems of the greatest sensitivity and importance to the national security. During his participation in the Committee, over a period of three years, Captain Skidmore has performed his duty in a superior manner equalled by few serving on the Committee during the last nine years, I having been the Chairman throughout that period.

Captain Skidmore has been outstanding in his ability to think in broad national terms, as well as in the interests of the Navy. His ability to study carefully each problem ensured that at each meeting he was a major contributor. He is, furthermore, excellent in negotiation. His keen interest in the viewpoints of others has been an essential characteristic achieving a Committee consensus or defining disagreements for consideration of higher authority.

The deadlines imposed on this Committee by the Board have frequently required that the Committee meet on short notice and at odd hours. Captain Skidmore invariably tried to attend such meetings in person, rather than to delegate the assignment as a convenience to him. His unfailing good temper and considerateness under these circumstances were a constant aid to the Chairman and the Committee.

The Navy can be gratified that it has been represented by an officer of such outstanding talent. I feel certain from my close working relationship with Captain Skidmore and opportunities to observe him in many situations that he has the capacity for serving in a variety of positions of great responsibility with distinction.

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Chairman